

A Fawcett Publication

APRIL
NO. 50



THIS ISSUE, SPACE SOVEREIGN BATTLES THE MOON CREATURES!

CAPTAIN MIDNIGHT

A Fawcett Publication

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WILL LIEBERSON

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A Fawcett Publication

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W. H. Fawcett, Jr.
PRESIDENT



CAPTAIN MIDNIGHT



CAPTAIN ALBRIGHT IS KNOWN TO MANY AS ONE OF AMERICA'S GREAT INVENTORS. BUT ONLY A TRUSTED FEW KNOW THAT IT IS HE WHO DONS THE BLAZING UNIFORM THAT SPELLS TERROR TO EVIL FORCES AND BECOMES THAT IRON-FISTED FIGHTER FOR FREEDOM—CAPTAIN MIDNIGHT!!

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CAPTAIN MIDNIGHT
AND THE
MOON CREATURES



SGT. TWILIGHT
HITS A NEW LOW
(NOTE!)

And—



CAPTAIN MIDNIGHT
SPIKES THE SUN GUN



CAPTAIN MIDNIGHT
IN THE LIFE OF THE SHARK

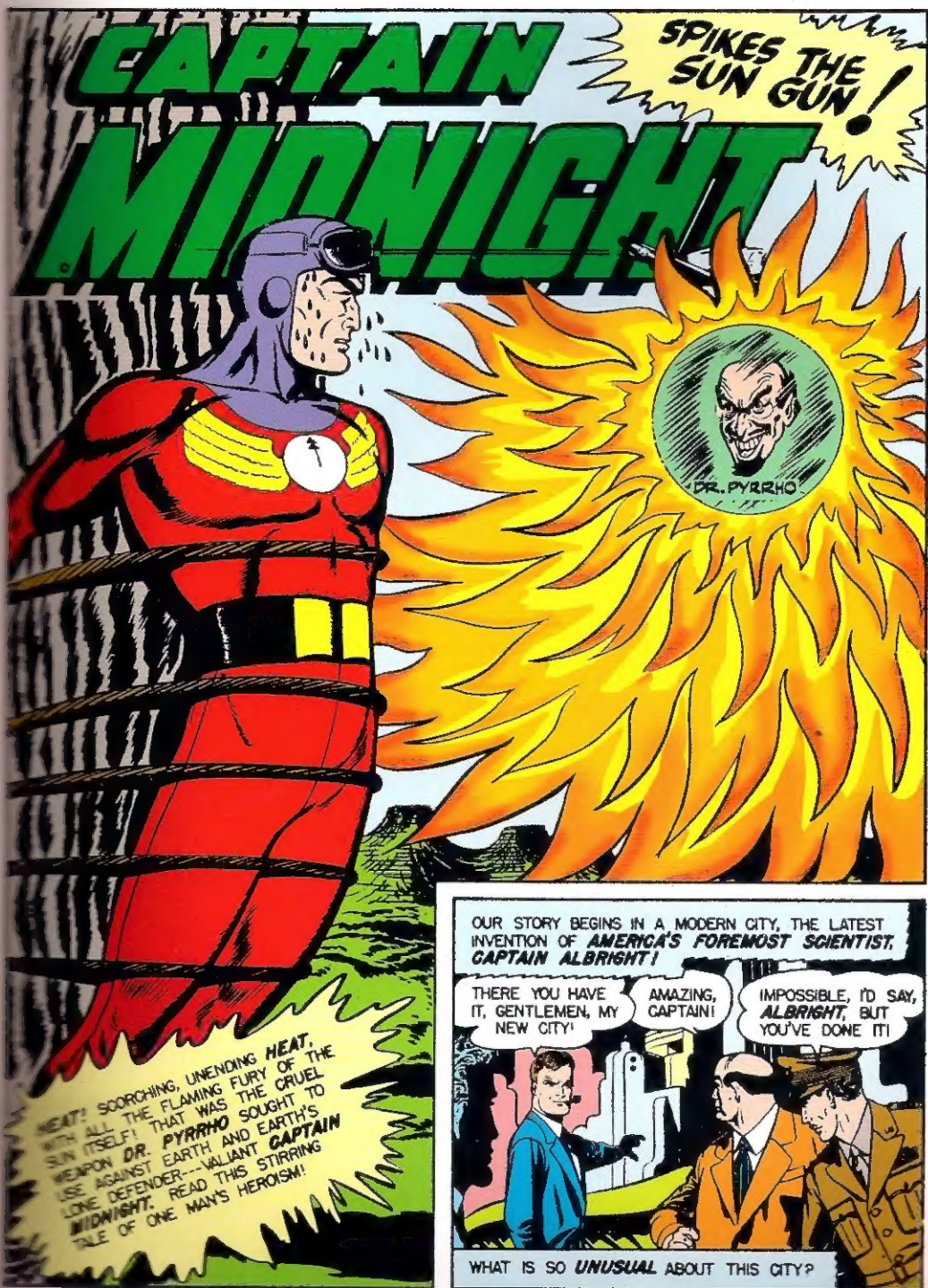
PILOT PETE
"RED SKYE"
SHORT STORY
INVENTIONS PAGE
AIR LINGO
FAMOUS FLIERS

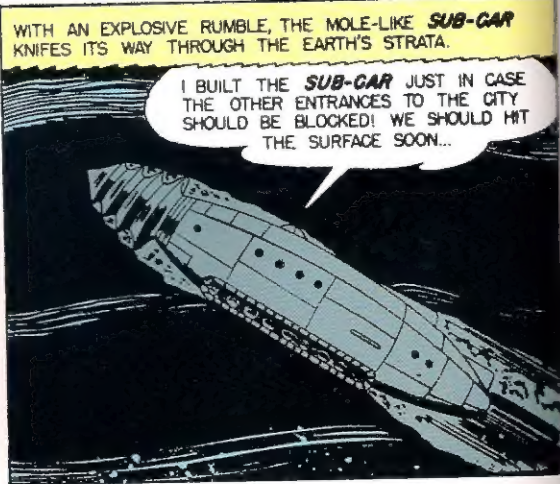
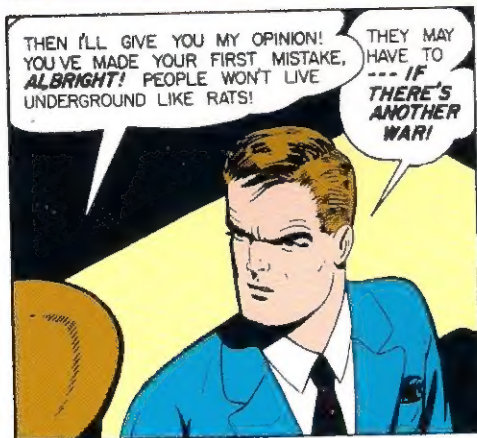
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BUT AN UNUSUAL SIGHT GREETES THE PARTY WHEN THEY REACH THE OUTSIDE AIR.

MY EYES! THAT GLARE---IT'S TERRIFIC!

AND THE **HEAT IS UNBEARABLE!** PLANTS AND ANIMALS ARE DYING ALL AROUND US!

THIS IS **HORRIBLE, ALBRIGHT!** WE'RE BEING **ROASTED ON A GRID!** WHAT DO YOU THINK'S BEHIND IT?

I DON'T KNOW, **GENERAL!** QUICK, ---LET'S GET TO MY LAB! THE RADIO MAY HAVE SOME NEWS!

IN THE LABORATORY...

QUIET! HERE'S THE NEWS REPORT!

...ALL OVER THE **SOUTHWEST!** NO ONE CAN ACCOUNT FOR THE **STRANGE HEAT** THAT IS PARALYZING THIS SECTION! SCIENTISTS ARE HELPLESS!

SUDDENLY, A HARSH VOICE IS HEARD.

ATTENTION ALL!! THIS IS **DR. PYRRHO** SPEAKING! I AM RESPONSIBLE FOR THE **HEAT** THAT HAS HIT YOU! IT WILL GET WORSE AND WORSE, TILL THE **GLARE** AND **DROUGHT** KILL YOU ALL, UNLESS---

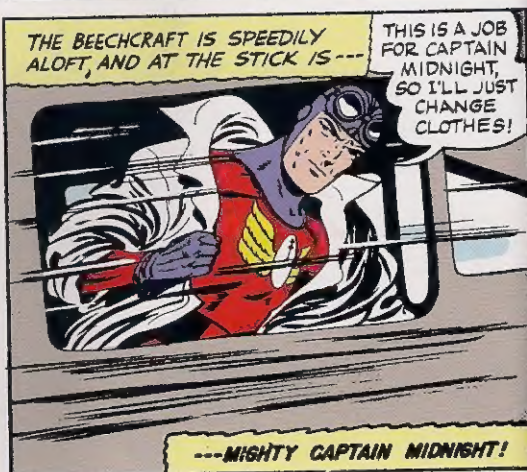
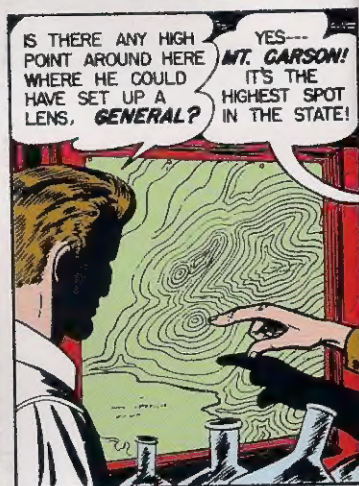
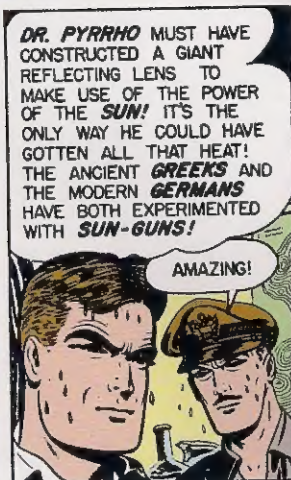
---UNLESS YOU AGREE TO PAY ME **TEN MILLION DOLLARS AT ONCE!** YOU HAVE TWO HOURS TO BROADCAST YOUR REPORT! THAT IS ALL!

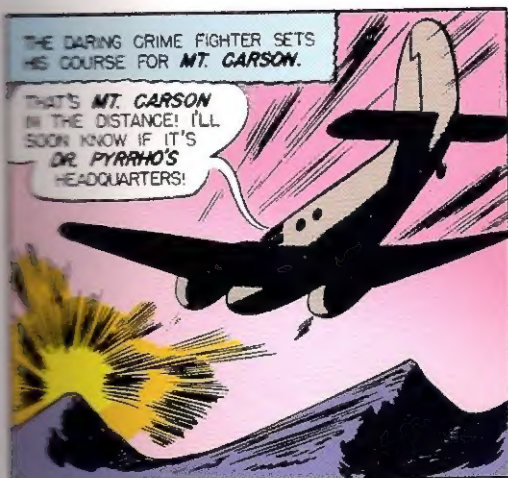
TEN MILLION! HE MUST BE MAD!

HE MAY BE MAD, BUT HE HAS A FANTASTIC WEAPON AT HIS COMMAND! **ALBRIGHT**---I THINK WE'LL HAVE TO YIELD TO HIS DEMAND!

NO, **GENERAL!** WHY NOT GIVE MY **UNDERGROUND CITY** A TRY? IT CAN SHELTER ALL THE PEOPLE IN THE VICINITY AFFECTED BY THE HEAT!

BY HEAVENS, MAN, YOU'RE RIGHT! I'LL SEND OUT A RUSH MESSAGE URGING ALL THE RANGERS AND THEIR FAMILIES TO HURRY HERE!





THE DARING CRIME FIGHTER SETS HIS COURSE FOR MT. CARSON.

THAT'S MT. CARSON IN THE DISTANCE! I'LL SOON KNOW IF IT'S DR. PYRRHO'S HEADQUARTERS!

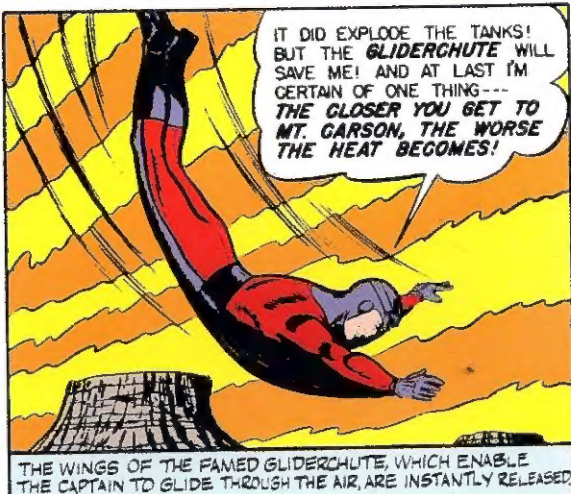


THIS HEAT--- IT'S TERRIFIC! IF ONLY IT DOESN'T IGNITE--- MY GAS TANKS...



BUT SUDDENLY---

KER BOOM!



IT DID EXPLODE THE TANKS! BUT THE GLIDERCHUTE WILL SAVE ME! AND AT LAST I'M CERTAIN OF ONE THING--- THE CLOSER YOU GET TO MT. CARSON, THE WORSE THE HEAT BECOMES!

THE WINGS OF THE FAMED GLIDERCHUTE, WHICH ENABLE THE CAPTAIN TO GLIDE THROUGH THE AIR, ARE INSTANTLY RELEASED!



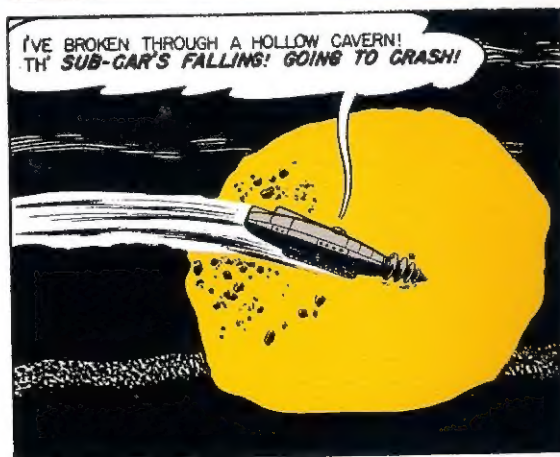
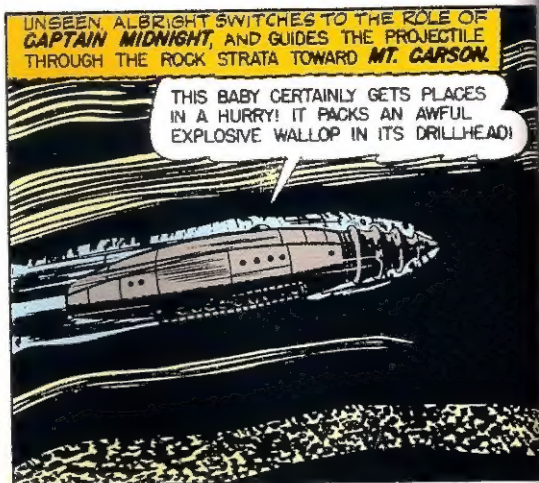
AFTER A RAPID CHANGE OF COSTUME THE FIGURE OF CAPT. ALBRIGHT TRUDGES BACK TO THE LABORATORY---

IS THAT... A GHOST? NO, BY JINGO! IT'S ALBRIGHT AGAIN!



YOU'RE HURT, MAN! THAT TREK THROUGH THE DESERT... WHAT HAPPENED TO YOUR PLANE?

IT BLEW UP, GENERAL! BUT LET'S GET DOWN TO THE UNDERGROUND CITY! AT LAST I HAVE A DEFINITE CLUE! DR. PYRRHO'S HEADQUARTERS IS AT MT. CARSON!



LATER, AS WHIRLING CONSCIOUSNESS RETURNS
TO **CAPTAIN MIDNIGHT**...

DOO... MY HEAD. I GUESS I BLACKED
OUT IN THAT CRASH. AND THEN
PYRHO'S MEN MUST HAVE FOUND
ME AND TAKEN ME OUT HERE...



...AND TIED ME, TO
DIE, IN THE HEAT.
THEY'VE EVEN TAKEN
AWAY MY BELT AND
HEEL KNIVES. I'M
HELPLESS, AND THOSE
BLASTED VULTURES
KNOW IT!

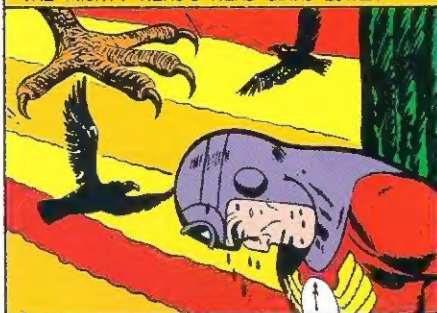


THROUGH GLARE-GLAZED EYES, **CAPTAIN MIDNIGHT**
AT LAST SEES **DR. PYRHO'S** GIANT **SUN-GUN**.

SO THAT'S THE **SUN-GUN**! JUST AS
I THOUGHT... BIG LENSES THAT REFRACT
THE SUN'S RAYS OUT ONTO THE DESERT.
BUT IT'S TOO LATE... TO DO ANYTHING...



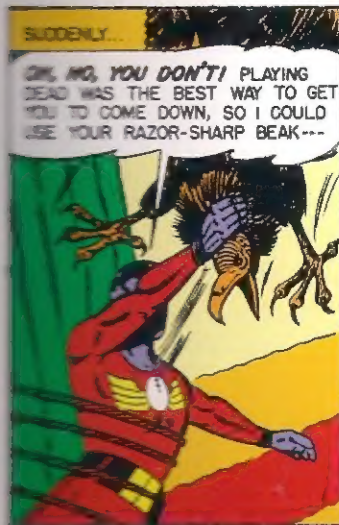
THE MIGHTY HERO'S HEAD SINKS LOWER---



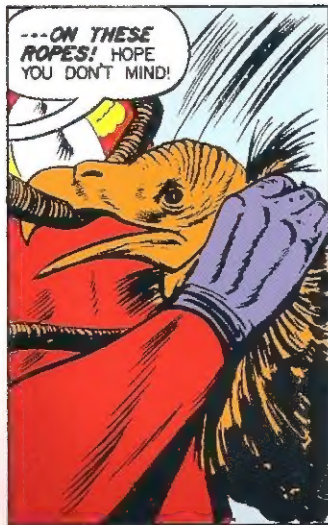
---AND THE **FIRST VULTURE** DIVES FOR
ITS PREY. **IS THIS THE END?**

SUDDENLY...

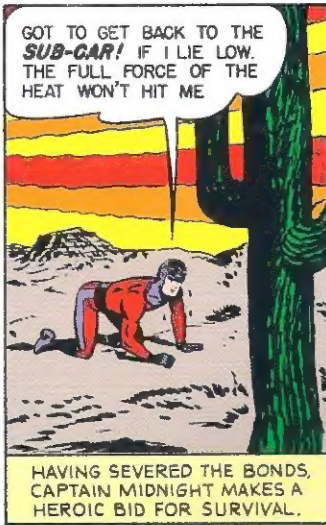
OK, HQ, YOU DON'T! PLAYING
DEAD WAS THE BEST WAY TO GET
YOU TO COME DOWN, SO I COULD
USE YOUR RAZOR-SHARP BEAK---



---ON THESE
ROPES! HOPE
YOU DON'T MIND!

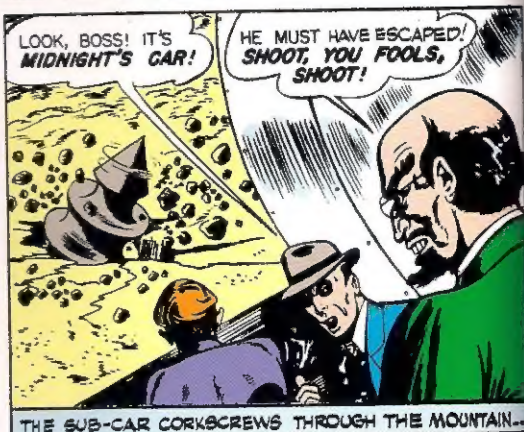
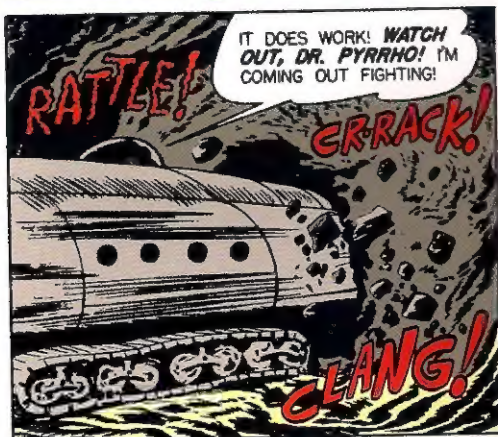


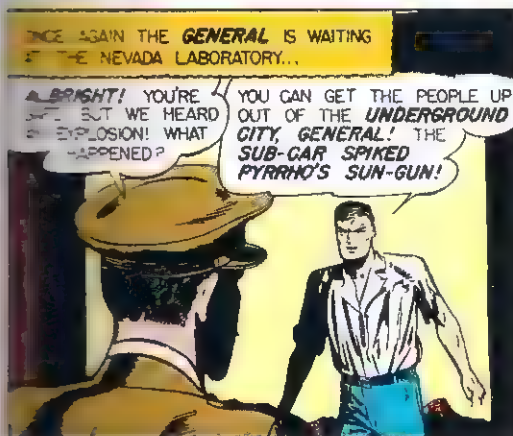
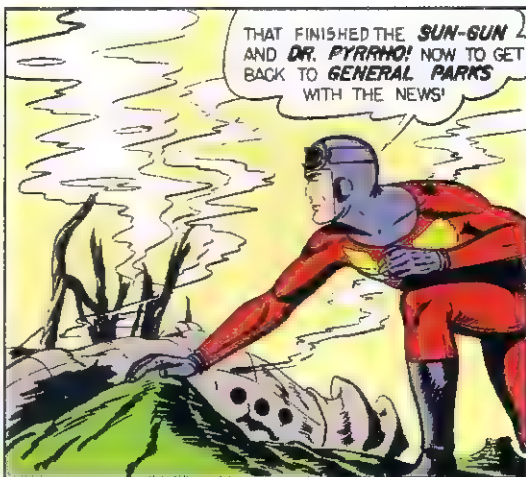
GOT TO GET BACK TO THE
SUB-CAR! IF I LIE LOW,
THE FULL FORCE OF THE
HEAT WON'T HIT ME



HAVING SEVERED THE BONDS,
CAPTAIN MIDNIGHT MAKES A
HEROIC BID FOR SURVIVAL.

CAPTAIN MIDNIGHT
WORMS
HIS WAY,
UNSEEN,
PAST
DR. PYRRHO
AND HIS
GUARDS
TO THE
CAVERN
WHERE
HE HAD
CRASHED...





CAPTAIN MIDNIGHT'S *Air Lingo*

HITTING THE SILK: TO MAKE A PARACHUTE JUMP

IRON MIKE: AUTOMATIC PILOT.

JUNK: ANTI-AIRCRAFT SHELL FIRE.

LAME DUCK: CRIPPLED AIRPLANE

KITE: ANY AIRPLANE.

KIWI: STUDENT PILOT.

MOLOTOFF BREADBASKET: A METAL CONTAINER DROPPED FROM AIRCRAFT IN WHICH 12 OR MORE INCENDIARY BOMBS ARE AUTOMATICALLY RELEASED.

MOLOTOFF COCKTAIL: AN INCENDIARY CONSISTING OF A BOTTLE OF GASOLINE OR OTHER INFLAMMABLE LIQUID, AND A SMALL TUBE CONTAINING A CHEMICAL, WHICH WHEN BROKEN, IGNITES THE LIQUID.

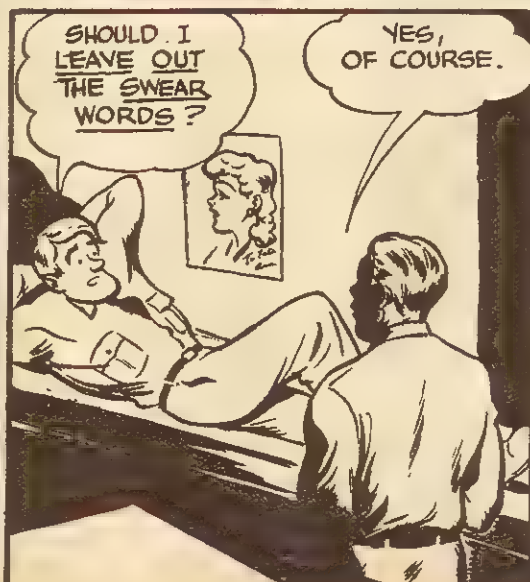
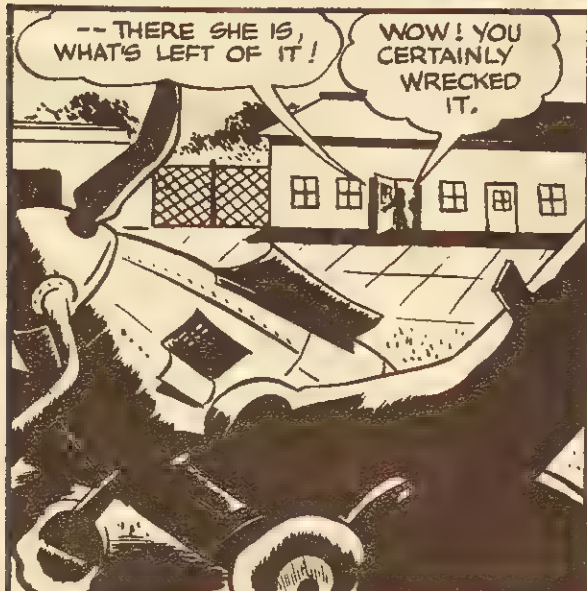
LAYING THE EGGS: DROPPING BOMBS.

MILK RUN: ROUTINE FLIGHT.

Pilot Pete



**SWEAR
BY IT**



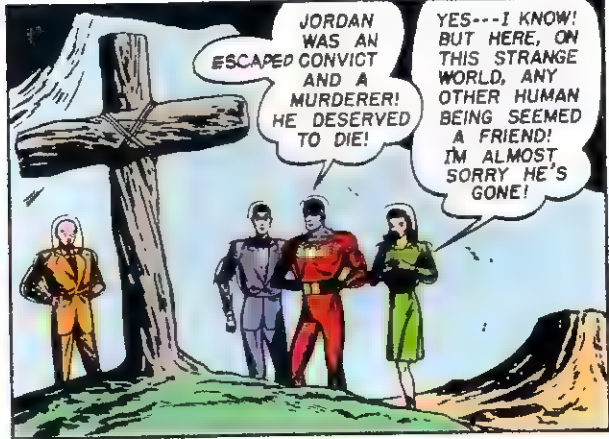
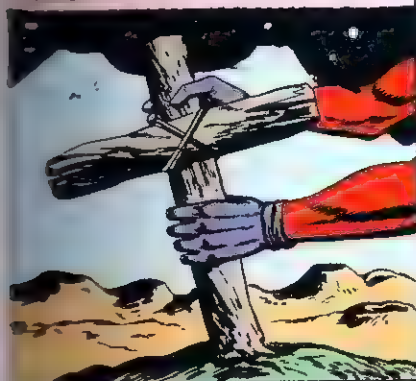
CAPTAIN MIDNIGHT

INTERPLANETARY
ADVENTURE

NOTE TO THE READER:
IN THE LAST ISSUE
CAPTAIN MIDNIGHT,
SCIENTIST AND INVENTOR,
COMPLETED THE MOST
EPIC JOURNEY IN THE
ANNALS OF MANKIND.
HE AND HIS FRIENDS HAVE
ARRIVED ON THE EARTH'S
SATELLITE---THE MOON---
THUS BECOMING THE FIRST
SPACE TRAVELLERS IN
HISTORY!
NEVER BEFORE HAS
MAN DARED TO CHALLENGE
THE POWER OF THE
INCALCULABLE FORCES THAT
EXIST BEYOND OUR WORLD...

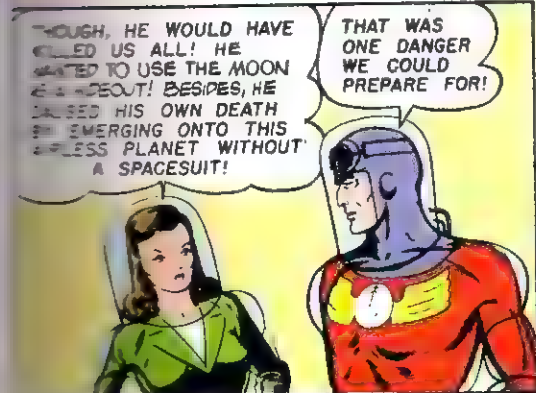


ON THE ALIEN SOIL OF ANOTHER
PLANET, A RUDE CROSS IS ERECTED...



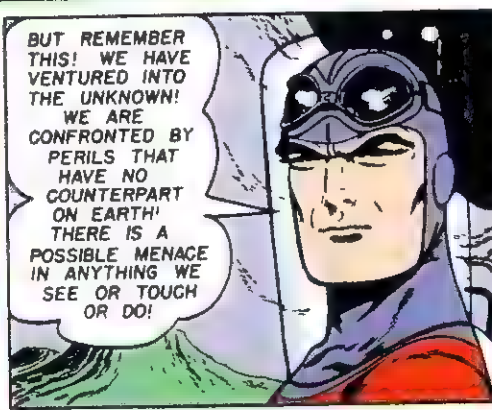
JORDAN
WAS AN
ESCAPED CONVICT
AND A
MURDERER!
HE DESERVED
TO DIE!

YES---I KNOW!
BUT HERE, ON
THIS STRANGE
WORLD, ANY
OTHER HUMAN
BEING SEEMED
A FRIEND!
I'M ALMOST
SORRY HE'S
GONE!

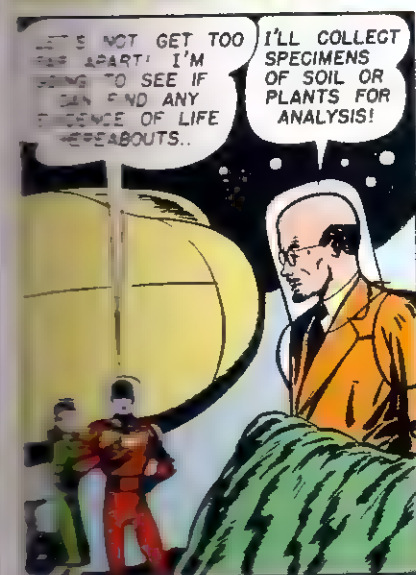


THOUGH, HE WOULD HAVE
KILLED US ALL! HE
WANTED TO USE THE MOON
AS A DEPOSIT! BESIDES, HE
CAUSED HIS OWN DEATH
BY EMERGING ONTO THIS
WILDLAND PLANET WITHOUT
A SPACESUIT!

THAT WAS
ONE DANGER
WE COULD
PREPARE FOR!



BUT REMEMBER
THIS! WE HAVE
VENTURED INTO
THE UNKNOWN!
WE ARE
CONFRONTED BY
PERILS THAT
HAVE NO
COUNTERPART
ON EARTH!
THERE IS A
POSSIBLE MENACE
IN ANYTHING WE
SEE OR TOUCH
OR DO!



LET'S NOT GET TOO
FAR APART! I'M
GOING TO SEE IF
I CAN FIND ANY
EVIDENCE OF LIFE
HEREABOUTS...

I'LL COLLECT
SPECIMENS
OF SOIL OR
PLANTS FOR
ANALYSIS!



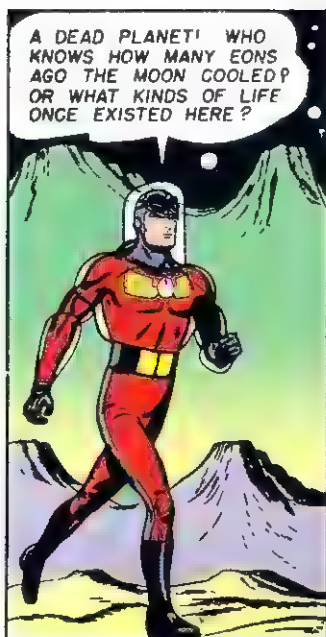
I'M STILL A
REPORTER!
I THINK MY
EDITOR WOULD
LIKE A FEATURE
STORY---ABOUT
A MOON'S EYE
VIEW OF DEAR
OLD EARTH!



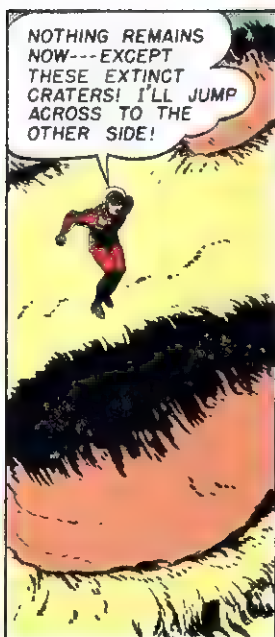
GOOD LUCK!
WE'LL MEET
AGAIN AT THE
SPACESHIP!
ICKY, YOU
STAND GUARD!

AW, GEE!

THE FIRST EARTH-PEOPLE ON THE MOON'S
SURFACE SEPARATE... EACH ONE
UNAWARE OF THE WEIRD MENACE
LURKING IN THE DARKNESS....



A DEAD PLANET! WHO KNOWS HOW MANY EONS AGO THE MOON COOLED? OR WHAT KINDS OF LIFE ONCE EXISTED HERE?

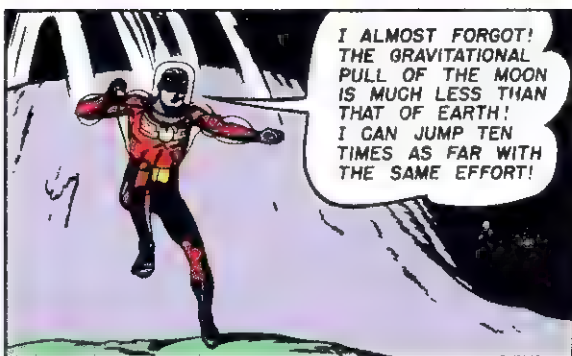


NOTHING REMAINS NOW---EXCEPT THESE EXTINCT CRATERS! I'LL JUMP ACROSS TO THE OTHER SIDE!



HEY!

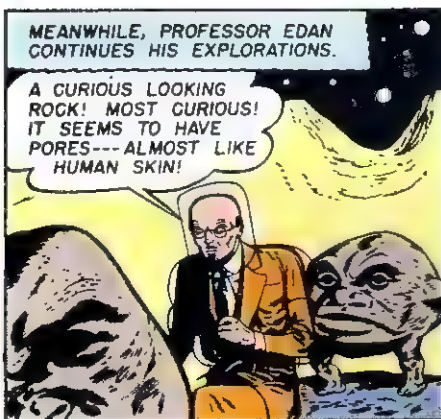
BUT AN EASY LEAP CATAPULTS CAPT. MIDNIGHT HIGH ABOVE THE GROUND!



I ALMOST FORGOT! THE GRAVITATIONAL PULL OF THE MOON IS MUCH LESS THAN THAT OF EARTH! I CAN JUMP TEN TIMES AS FAR WITH THE SAME EFFORT!



NO REASON TO SEARCH FURTHER! THERE'S NO LIFE HERE OF ANY KIND ---AND HASN'T BEEN FOR MILLIONS OF YEARS! I'LL GO BACK TO JOIN THE OTHERS!



MEANWHILE, PROFESSOR EDAN CONTINUES HIS EXPLORATIONS.

A CURIOUS LOOKING ROCK! MOST CURIOUS! IT SEEMS TO HAVE PORES---ALMOST LIKE HUMAN SKIN!



EEEOWW! THE ROCK'S ALIVE! IT GRABBED ME! ...**HELP!**



HELP!

PROFESSOR EDAN! SOMETHING'S WRONG!



GOOD GLORY!

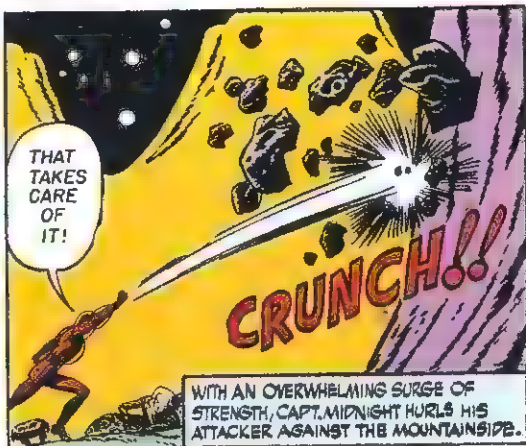
BE CAREFUL! THEY--- THEY'RE ALIVE!



UGH! WHAT FOUL MONSTROSITIES!

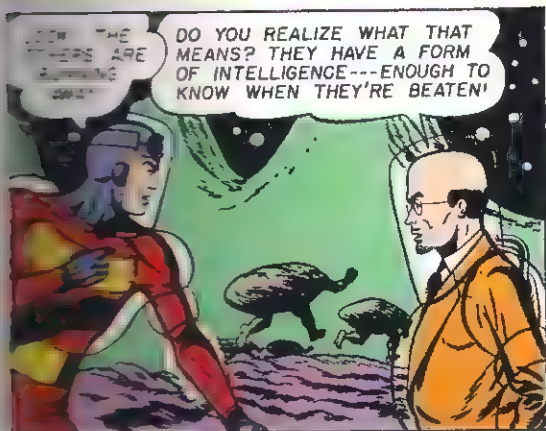


ONE OF THEM'S GOT ME!

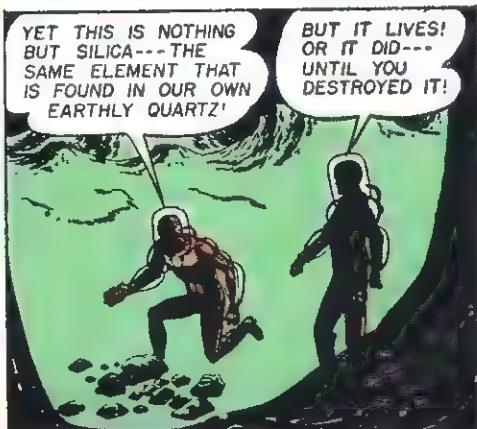


THAT TAKES CARE OF IT!

WITH AN OVERWHELMING SURGE OF STRENGTH, CAPT. MIDNIGHT HURLS HIS ATTACKER AGAINST THE MOUNTAINSIDE.

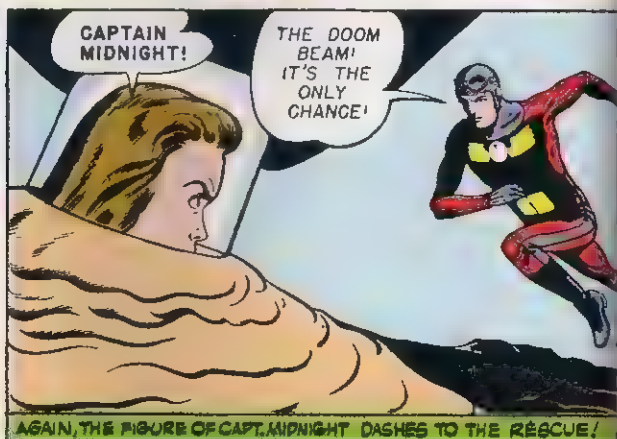
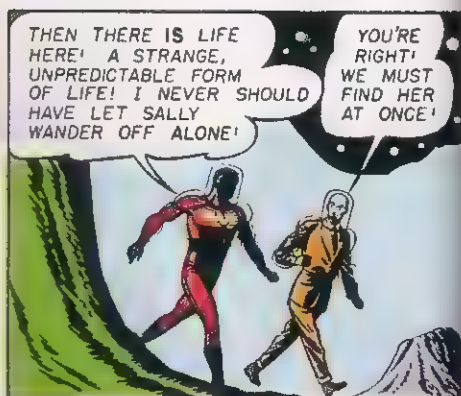
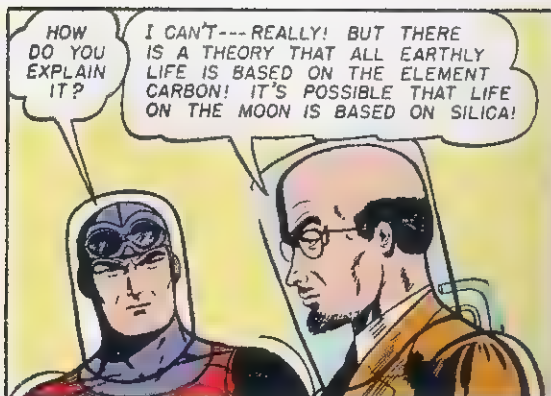


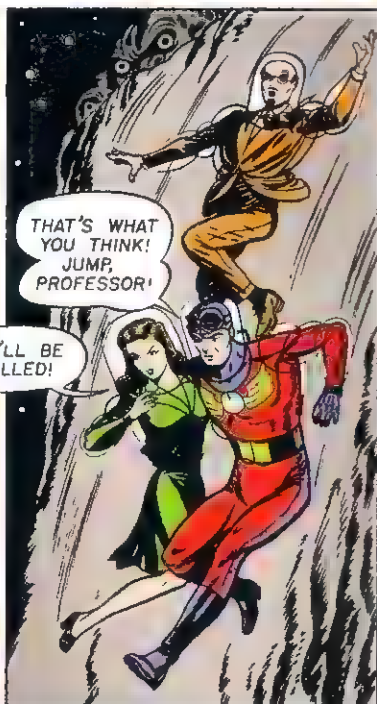
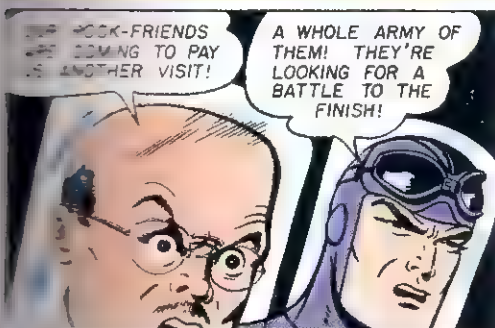
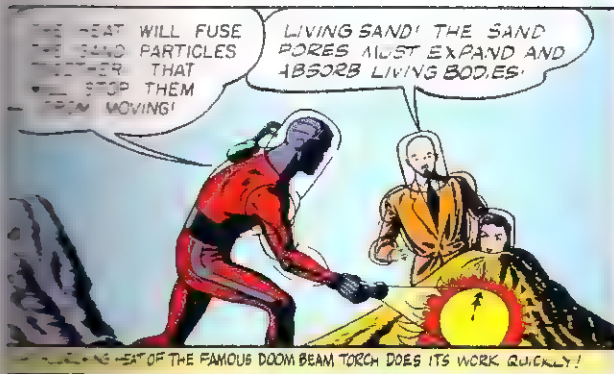
DO YOU REALIZE WHAT THAT MEANS? THEY HAVE A FORM OF INTELLIGENCE---ENOUGH TO KNOW WHEN THEY'RE BEATEN!

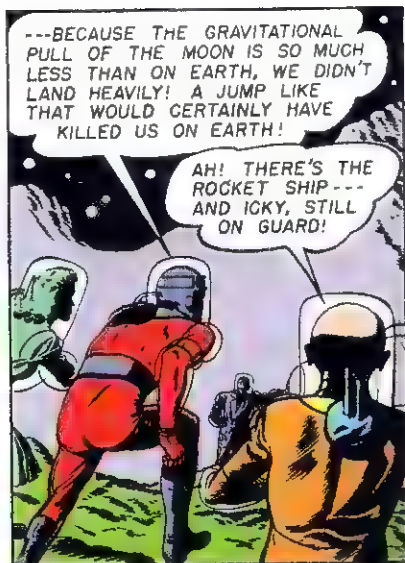


YET THIS IS NOTHING BUT SILICA---THE SAME ELEMENT THAT IS FOUND IN OUR OWN EARTHLY QUARTZ!

BUT IT LIVES! OR IT DID--- UNTIL YOU DESTROYED IT!

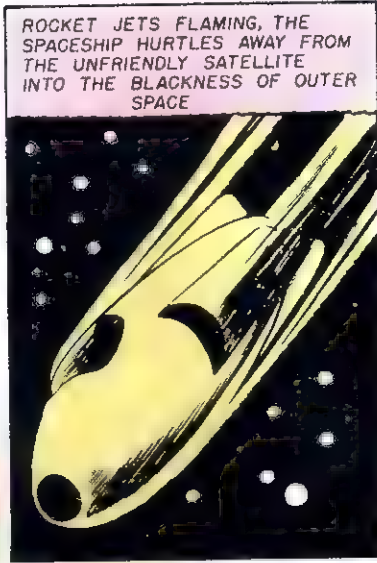




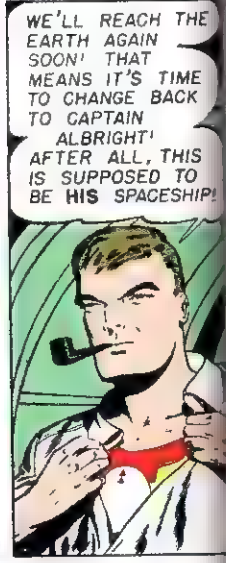


---BECAUSE THE GRAVITATIONAL PULL OF THE MOON IS SO MUCH LESS THAN ON EARTH, WE DIDN'T LAND HEAVILY! A JUMP LIKE THAT WOULD CERTAINLY HAVE KILLED US ON EARTH!

AH! THERE'S THE ROCKET SHIP--- AND ICKY, STILL ON GUARD!



ROCKET JETS FLAMING, THE SPACESHIP HURTTLES AWAY FROM THE UNFRIENDLY SATELLITE INTO THE BLACKNESS OF OUTER SPACE



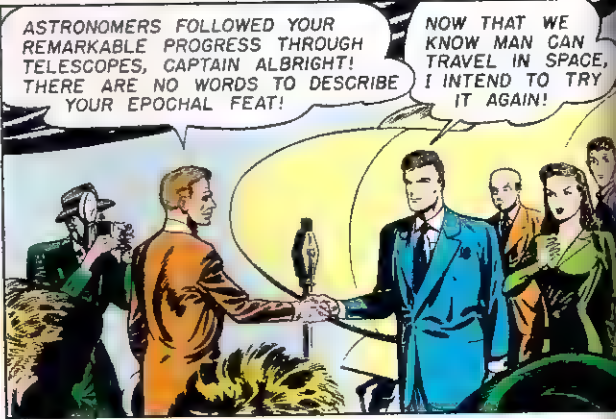
WE'LL REACH THE EARTH AGAIN SOON! THAT MEANS IT'S TIME TO CHANGE BACK TO CAPTAIN ALBRIGHT! AFTER ALL, THIS IS SUPPOSED TO BE HIS SPACESHIP!



BACK ON THE PLANET EARTH...

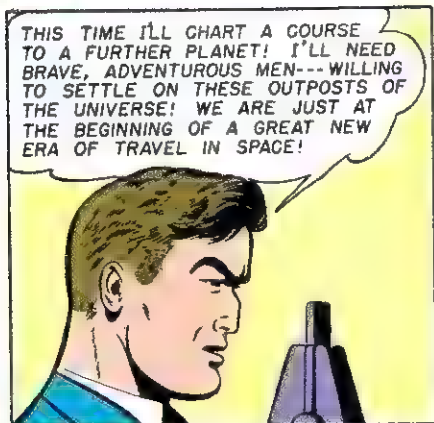
THERE'S THE SPACESHIP NOW!

HURRAY!



ASTRONOMERS FOLLOWED YOUR REMARKABLE PROGRESS THROUGH TELESCOPES, CAPTAIN ALBRIGHT! THERE ARE NO WORDS TO DESCRIBE YOUR EPOCHAL FEAT!

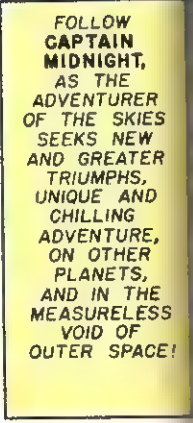
NOW THAT WE KNOW MAN CAN TRAVEL IN SPACE, I INTEND TO TRY IT AGAIN!



THIS TIME I'LL CHART A COURSE TO A FURTHER PLANET! I'LL NEED BRAVE, ADVENTUROUS MEN--- WILLING TO SETTLE ON THESE OUTPOSTS OF THE UNIVERSE! WE ARE JUST AT THE BEGINNING OF A GREAT NEW ERA OF TRAVEL IN SPACE!



BUT LET ME ADD A NOTE OF WARNING FOR ANYONE WHO WANTS TO SETTLE ON THE MOON! DO ANYTHING YOU LIKE! BUT DON'T TRY TO BUILD A ROCK GARDEN!



FOLLOW CAPTAIN MIDNIGHT, AS THE ADVENTURER OF THE SKIES SEEKS NEW AND GREATER TRIUMPHS, UNIQUE AND CHILLING ADVENTURE, ON OTHER PLANETS, AND IN THE MEASURELESS VOID OF OUTER SPACE!

THE TRAGEDY OF JOE MILLER

"IN THE TEMPEST"

"MISERY ACQUAINTS A
MAN WITH STRANGE
BEDFELLOWS"

THAT'S ALL RIGHT, SO
LONG AS THEY'RE NOT
BAD FELLOWS!



GET THEE AWAY,
SCRIBE/ YOU AND
THAT INFERNAL
BOOK ARE RUINING
MY CHANCES IN THE
THEATRE!

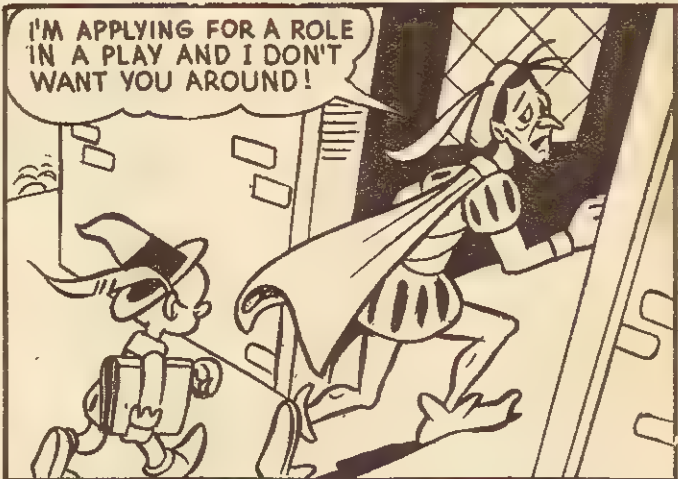
BUT, JOE, IT'S NOT MY
FAULT! I ONLY RECORD
WHAT YOU SAY!

STAGE 1 TRANCE

JOE
MILLER
JEST
BOOK



I'M APPLYING FOR A ROLE
IN A PLAY AND I DON'T
WANT YOU AROUND!



HAVE YOU A PART
FOR ME IN YOUR
PLAY?

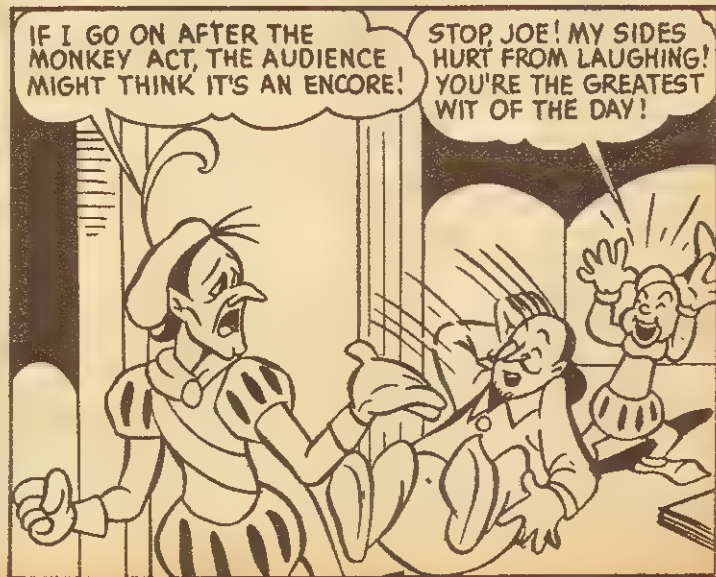
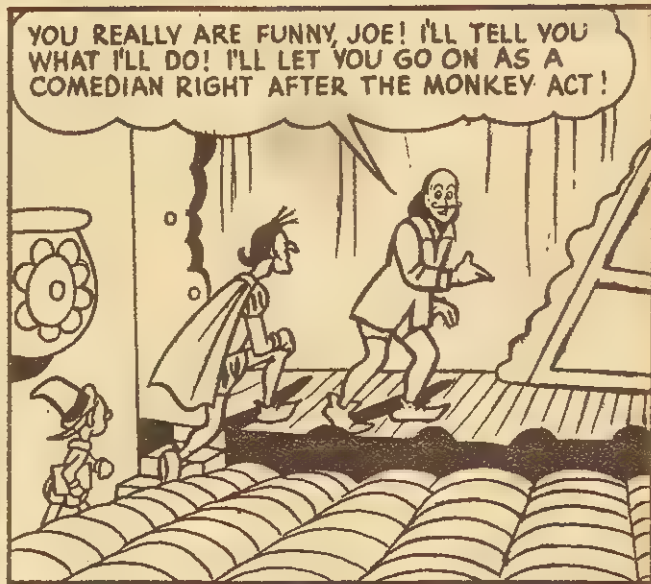
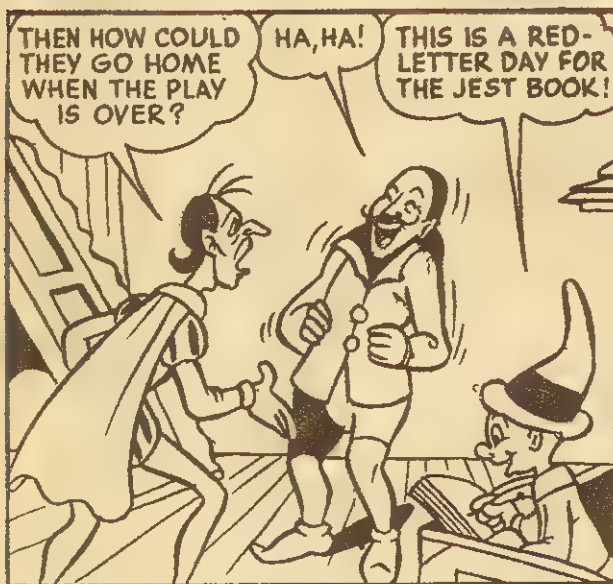
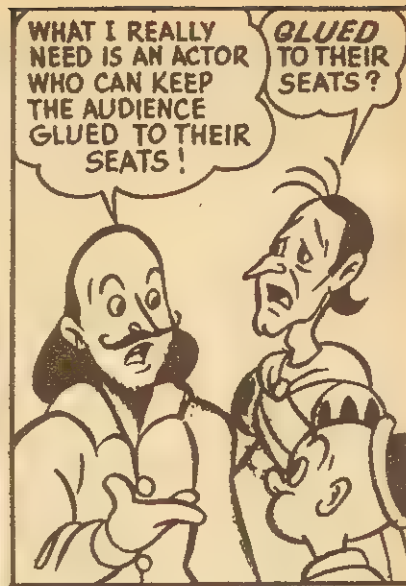
DID YOU EVER HAVE
A **LEADING** ROLE
IN THE THEATRE?



YES! I WAS ONCE
AN USHER!

HO, HO! WHAT A LULU!
THAT JOE IS THE
FUNNIEST FELLOW
AROUND!





JOHNNY BLAIR IN THE AIR

THEY'VE GOT A GOOD HEAD START ON ME. I'LL HAVE TO HUSTLE TO CATCH UP!

WHEN THE FLYING POLICE SET OUT AFTER THREE CONVICTS WHO HAVE ESCAPED FROM GRAHAM PENITENTIARY, JOHNNY BLAIR DECIDED TO TAG ALONG, JUST FOR THE RIDE....

IN THE POLICE PLANE...

ACCORDING TO THE RADIO REPORTS, 'SLEEPY', THOSE ESCAPED CONS OUGHT TO BE WITHIN A FIVE MILE RADIUS OF HERE....

HOW RIGHT YOU ARE, BUD! TAKE A LOOK AT THAT BOAT!

THERE THEY ARE, HEADING OUT TO SEA. LET'S GO DOWNSTAIRS AND HEAD THEM OFF!

MEANWHILE, IN JOHNNY BLAIR'S PLANE..

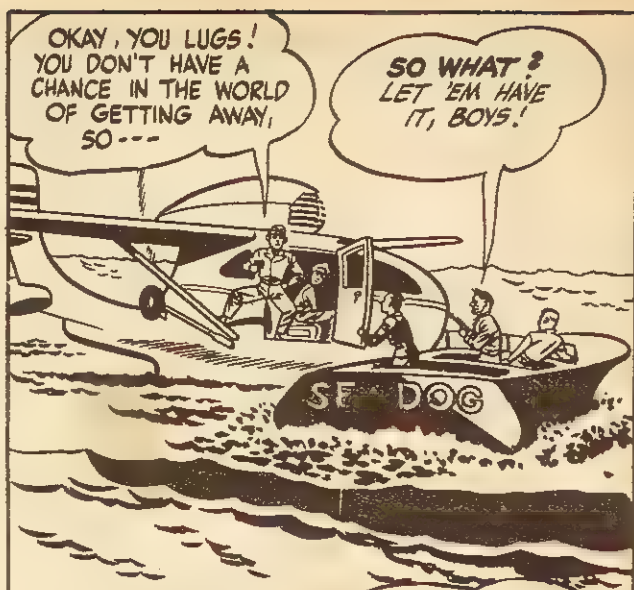
GOSH, EVANS IS OUT OF SIGHT! I HOPE I CAN FIND HIM AGAIN. THAT REPUBLIC SEABEE IS A MIGHTY SPEEDY BABY.

LOOK, BENSON! IT'S A DIVE. DIVING US!

WHAT DO YOU THINK WE OUGHT TO DO, TOM? THOSE GUYS ARE READY TO PUT UP A SCRAP.

AND SO ARE WE! LET'S LAND THE SEAPLANE AND PICK THEM UP... AND HANG ON TO YOUR FORTY-FIVE, JUST IN CASE!

WHILE IN THE BOAT...



JOHNNY BLAIR PRESENTS CUTOUTS OF THE
TWIN-ENGINE GRUMMAN WIDGEON AMPHIB-
IAN. POWERED BY TWO 200-HP RANGER
ENGINES, THE WIDGEON CARRIES A PILOT AND
FOUR PASSENGERS, HAS A RANGE OF 780 MILES.

SLIDE INTO WING
POSITIONS J.K

CUT OUT THE WIDGEON,
BACK WITH STIFF CARDBOARD,
AND ASSEMBLE AS INDICATED. PUT A
PAPER CLIP ON THE NOSE TO MAKE IT GLIDE.

HERE ARE THE REST OF THE CUTOUTS OF THE WIDGEON. NEXT MONTH
JOHNNY WILL PRESENT CUTOUTS OF THE NORTH AMERICAN ALL-METAL
NAVION! DON'T MISS IT!

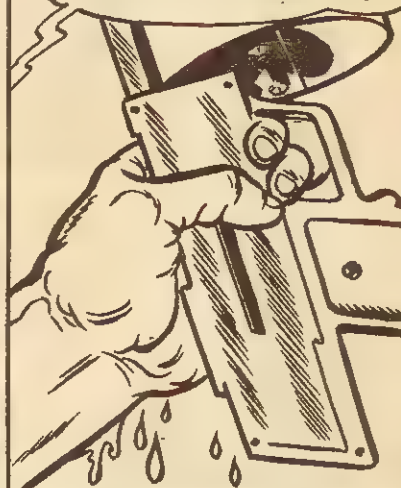


THAT'S IT--GET 'EM UP HIGH!
"SLEEPY," YOU FRISK THEM. I
DON'T WANT TO TAKE
ANY CHANCES!

HE'S NOT
WATCHING! IF I
CAN GET MY HAND
ON THAT TOMMY
GUN LYING IN
THE BOAT...



I'VE GOT THE TOMMY GUN!
NOW TO FIX THOSE COPS!



DROP THEM GUNS!
IT'S MY TURN NOW,
COPPERS! TRIG, GET
THEIR HARDWARE!

NICE GOIN' CHIEF!
YOU GOT THE DROP
ON 'EM, ALL RIGHT!



MEANWHILE, WHAT OF JOHNNY BLAIR?

THAT MUST BE THE
CONVICTS BOAT! AND,
HOLY MOLEY, THEY'VE
GOT TOM EVANS AND
"SLEEPY" CAPTURED.
I'VE GOT TO DO
SOMETHING--AND
FAST!



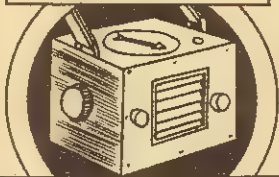
JOHNNY BLAIR HAS ACTED FAST IN MANY A TIGHT
SPOT--- BUT WHAT CAN HE DO TO HELP THE TWO
FLYING POLICEMEN? BE SURE TO READ NEXT
MONTH'S *CAPTAIN MIDNIGHT COMICS*!

OF ALL THE CUPIDS WHO HAD EVER MATCHED WITS WITH MIGHTY **CAPTAIN MIDNIGHT**, THERE WAS NONE TO APPROACH THE EVIL **IVAN SHARK**! SO WHEN **CAPTAIN MIDNIGHT** WAS ASKED TO HELP MAKE A MOVIE ON THE "**LIFE OF THE SHARK**", HE CHEERFULLY ACCEPTED, NEVER DREAMING THAT THE CAMERA WOULD RECORD SCENES MORE TERRIFYINGLY REAL THAN ANY OF THE PAST. READ THIS PULSATING TALE OF REVENGE, AS PLOTTED BY THE MASTER CRIMINAL OF ALL---

IVAN SHARK!

YOU'RE
CAPT.
HOW V
IT--- S
OR HOT LEAD?

A Captain Midnight
Invention



MECHANICAL BLOODHOUND



MAJOR MIDNIGHT

LIFE OF THE SHARK!

OF ALL THE CUNNING VILLAINS WHO HAD EVER MATCHED WITS WITH MIGHTY **MAJOR MIDNIGHT**, THERE WAS NONE TO APPROACH THE EVIL **IVAN SHARK!** SO WHEN **MAJOR MIDNIGHT** WAS ASKED TO HELP MAKE A MOVIE ON THE "**LIFE OF THE SHARK**," HE CHEERFULLY ACCEPTED, NEVER DREAMING THAT THE CAMERA WOULD RECORD SCENES MORE TERRIFYINGLY REAL THAN ANY OF THE PAST. READ THIS PULSATING TALE OF REVENGE, AS PLOTTED BY THE MASTER CRIMINAL OF ALL--- **IVAN SHARK!**

YOU'RE GOING TO DIE, **MAJOR MIDNIGHT!**
HOW WILL YOU HAVE IT--- **SHARP HORNS** OR **HOT LEAD??**

A Major Midnight
Invention



MECHANICAL BLOODHOUND



Art by **LEONARD FRANK**

TOWARD **HOLLYWOOD** WINGS A SWIFT, SILVERY MONOPLANE. IT IS THE **BEECHCRAFT**, FAMOUS PLANE OF **CAPTAIN ALBRIGHT**!

HOW COME WE'RE FLYING TO **HOLLYWOOD**, CAP'N ALBRIGHT?

I JUST RECEIVED AN URGENT WIRE FROM **PAUL PETROV**, AGE DIRECTOR OF **EPIC FILMS**! THEY'RE MAKING A SPECIAL FILM OF THE LIFE OF **IVAN SHARK**...

... AND HE WANTED TO KNOW IF I WOULD ACT AS TECHNICAL ADVISOR TO THE FILM! OF COURSE, I SAID YES! THE AMERICAN PUBLIC MUST LEARN THE TRUE STORY OF **IVAN SHARK**!

BUT I THINK THAT I'LL BE EVEN MORE USEFUL TO **PETROV** AS THE MAN WHO FOUGHT **IVAN SHARK** ---CAPTAIN MIDNIGHT!

SO WHEN THE BEECHCRAFT LANDS, **PAUL PETROV** IS SURPRISED TO SEE ---

CAPTAIN MIDNIGHT!! THIS IS A GR-REAT SURPRISE!

HELLO, MR. **PETROV**! MY FRIEND, **CAPTAIN ALBRIGHT**, TOLD ME YOU NEEDED AN EXPERT ON THE LIFE OF **IVAN SHARK**, SO HERE I AM!

WONDERFUL! BUT TELL ME, WHAT IS THAT PIECE OF EQUIPMENT?

THIS IS MY **MECHANICAL BLOODHOUND**, A DEVICE WHICH ONCE HELPED ME CAPTURE **THE SHARK**! I BROUGHT IT ALONG FOR USE IN THE MOVIE!

AND THIS IS MY ASSISTANT, **ICHABOD MUDD**!

HOWDY, MR. **PETROV**!

IT IS A PLEASURE! GR-REAT PLEASURE! NOW WE GET STARTED WITH THE FILM --- "**THE LIFE OF IVAN SHARK**!" AND YOU, **CAPTAIN MIDNIGHT**, WILL PLAY A LEADING ROLE!

WITH AN ALL-STAR CAST OF ACTORS, THE MOVIE ABOUT THE INFAMOUS CRIMINAL GOES INTO PRODUCTION!

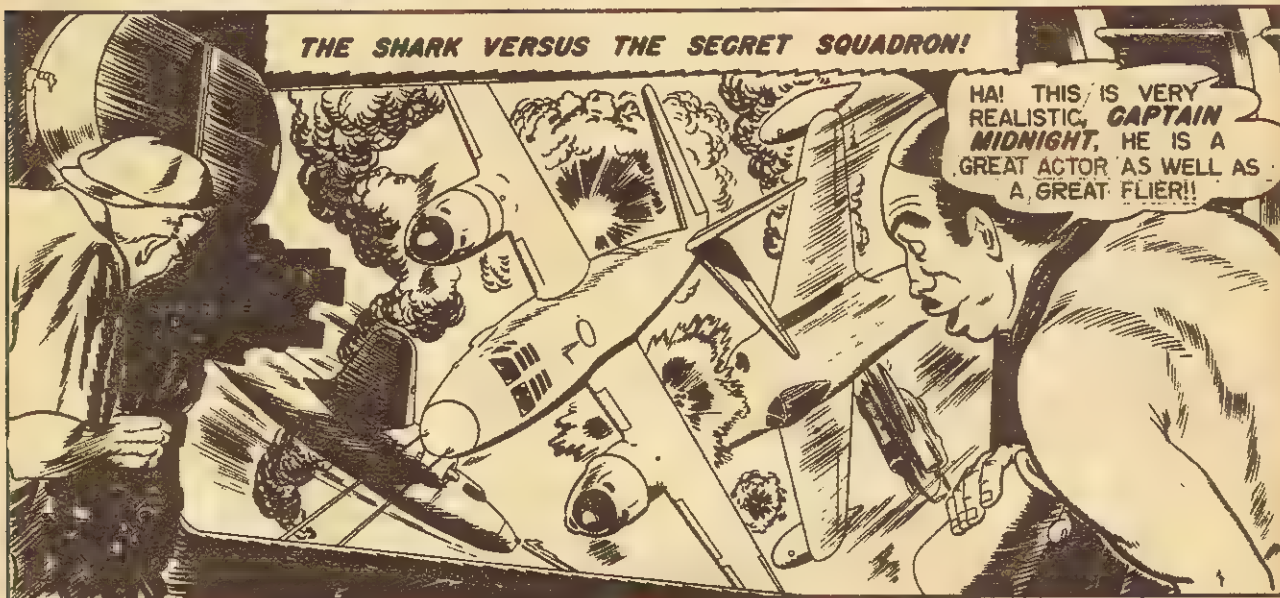
YOU WILL PLAY YOURSELF, **CAPTAIN MIDNIGHT**, AND MR. GETRY WILL PLAY THE ROLE OF THE SHARK. WE WILL START WITH THE FIRST EXCITING EPISODE--- **THE SHARK IN AFRICA!**



THE SHARK IN AFRICA!



THE SHARK VERSUS THE SECRET SQUADRON!

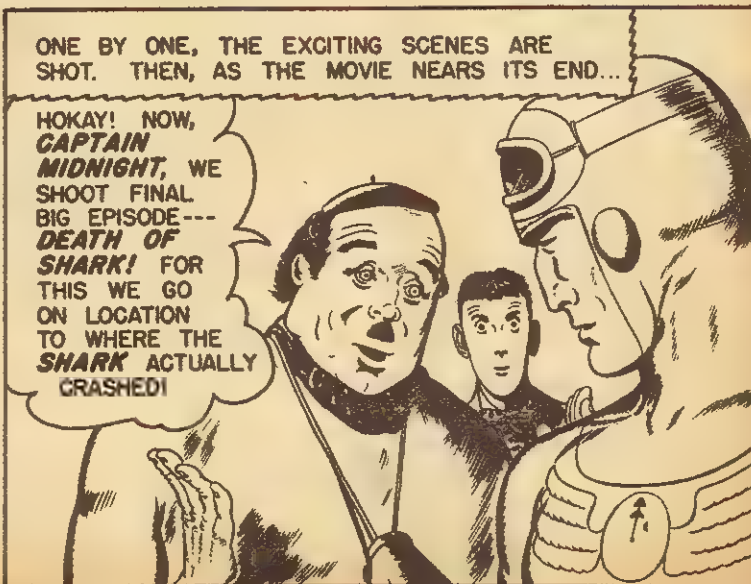


RETURN OF THE SHARK!



ONE BY ONE, THE EXCITING SCENES ARE SHOT. THEN, AS THE MOVIE NEARS ITS END...

HOKAY! NOW, **CAPTAIN MIDNIGHT**, WE SHOOT FINAL BIG EPISODE--- **DEATH OF SHARK!** FOR THIS WE GO ON LOCATION TO WHERE THE **SHARK** ACTUALLY CRASHED!

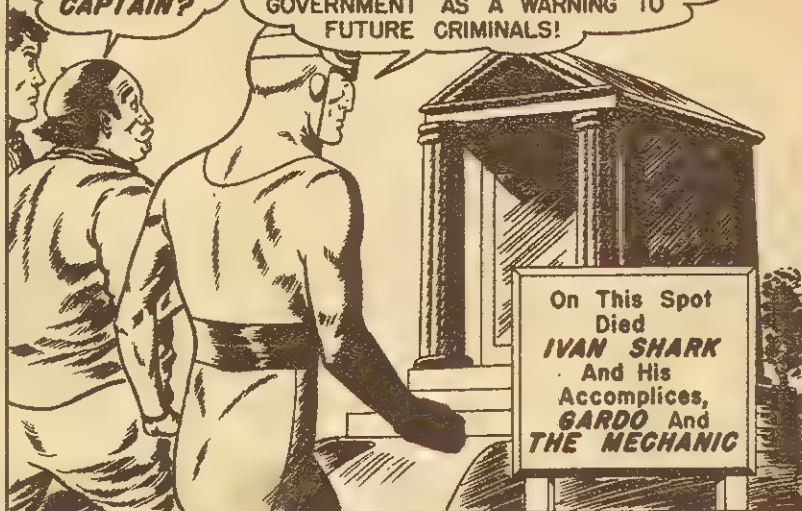


THE WHOLE COMPANY FLIES TO THE **MIDWESTERN** SPOT WHERE **IVAN SHARK** AND HIS **GANG** HAD HURTLED TO A FIERY DOOM, SHOT DOWN BY **CAPTAIN MIDNIGHT!**

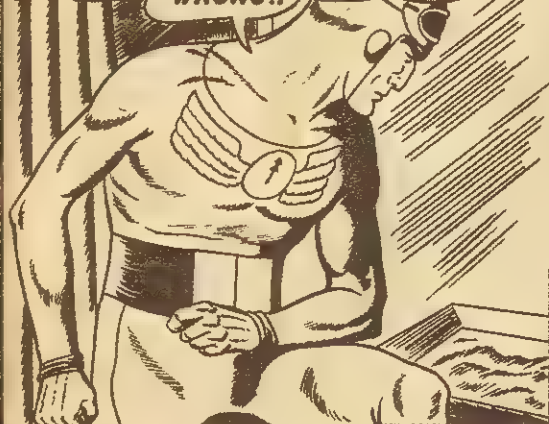


WHAT IS THIS, **CAPTAIN?**

IT'S A MONUMENT PUT UP BY THE GOVERNMENT AS A WARNING TO FUTURE CRIMINALS!

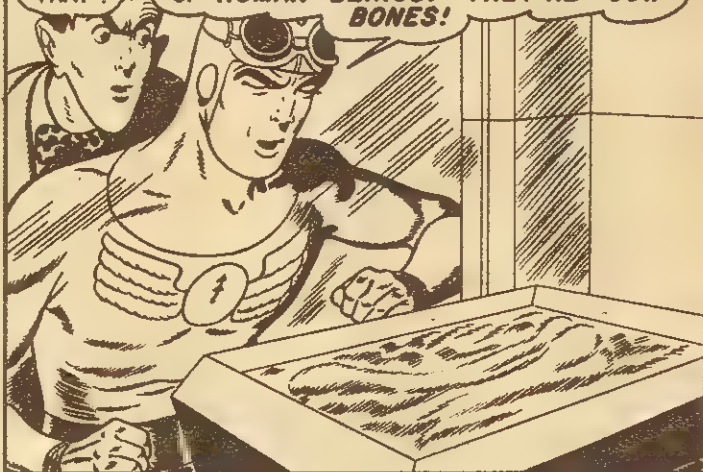


THE PAPERS SAID THAT IT CONTAINED THE ASHES AND CHARRED REMAINS OF THE WHOLE GANG! **WAIT A MINUTE! THERE'S SOMETHING WRONG!!**



WRONG? WHAT'S THAT?

THOSE ASHES! THEY'VE HELD THEIR SHAPE! BUT THEY'RE NOT THE BONES OF HUMAN BEINGS! **THEY'RE COW BONES!**



IF MY GUESS IS RIGHT, A COW WAS HIT BY THE PLANE AND BURNED BY IT! THE POLICE FOUND ITS ASHES AND THOUGHT THEY BELONGED TO THE **SHARK!** AND MEANWHILE--- HE MUST HAVE ESCAPED!



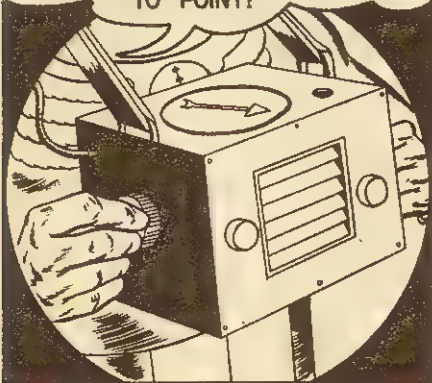
THE SHARK ---IS ALIVE? CAMERA! START SHOOTING!

PETROV, THE MECHANICAL BLOODHOUND MUST BE USED AGAIN! YEARS AGO, I LEARNED **IVAN SHARK'S** METABOLIC RATE! IF I ADJUST THIS LEVER TO IT EXACTLY, IT SHOULD LEAD US TO HIM!



IMMEDIATELY, THE BRILLIANT INVENTION OF THE NEVADA SCIENTIST GOES TO WORK!

I'VE ADJUSTED IT TO **IVAN SHARK'S** WAVE LENGTH! AND LOOK---THE ARROW IS STARTING TO POINT!



IT'S POINTING WEST! C'MON, **ICKY**, LET'S FOLLOW THE TRAIL OF THE **MECHANICAL BLOODHOUND!** PETROV AND THE CAMERAMAN WILL FOLLOW US!



THE MILES FLIT BY. THEN...

WHOA! STOP THE CAR, **ICKY!** THE ARROW POINTS TO THAT FARMHOUSE BY THE SIDE OF THE ROAD!



THE PLANE CRASHED MONTHS AGO, BUT **IVAN SHARK** MAY STILL BE HIDING OUT HERE! TAKE THIS GUN AND BE CAREFUL, **ICKY!**

R-RIGHT, **CAP'N!** UH, YOU LEAD ON AN' I'LL FOLLOW!



WHY YES, THREE MEN ANSWERING THAT DESCRIPTION CAME TO THE HOUSE THAT NIGHT! SAID THEY'D BEEN IN AN ACCIDENT! I GAVE THEM FIRST-AID AND DROVE THEM TO TOWN!

I SEE! THANK YOU, SIR!



CAPTAIN MIDNIGHT CAUTIOUSLY APPROACHES THE DOOR!

WHERE NOW, **CAPTAIN?**

TO TOWN! THAT'S WHERE THE **MECHANICAL BLOODHOUND** IS POINTING NOW! THE TRAIL'S GETTING HOTTER!



PAUL PETROV NEVER GIVES UP! WE WILL ACTUALLY SHOOT **THE FINISH OF THE SHARK!**

THE CAMERA FOLLOWS CAPTAIN MIDNIGHT WHEREVER HE GOES!



BUT MEANWHILE, IN A DINGY ATTIC IN THE TOWN...

SHARK! I GOTTA HOT TIP!
CAPTAIN MIDNIGHT'S AFTER
US! WE GOTTA SKIP TOWN!
HE'S ON HIS WAY HERE
RIGHT NOW!

WHA-AT? MIDNIGHT
ON MY TRAIL? GOOD
WORK, **GARDO!**

WAIT A MINUTE! IF WE KNOW THAT HE'S
FOLLOWING US, WE HAVE THE ADVANTAGE
OF SURPRISE! WE CAN **SET A TRAP**
FOR **CAPTAIN MIDNIGHT!**

THE EVIL BRAIN OF THE SHARK
CONCEIVES A FIENDISH PLOT!

HOW CAN
WE DO IT,
SHARK?

BY GIVING HIM A **WRONG STEER**,
THAT'S HOW! COME, **GARDO**,
MECHANIC! WE'RE GOING TO
THE **STOCKYARDS!!** AND ON
OUR WAY, LET'S GET AN AX---
A BIG MEAT AX!

AN HOUR LATER...

THERE'S NO ONE HERE,
ICKY! THE BIRDS HAVE
FLOWN THE COOP!

BUT THE ARROW'S
POINTIN' AT THAT
WINDOW, **CAP!!**
THE **SHARK** MUST'VE
LEFT THAT WAY!

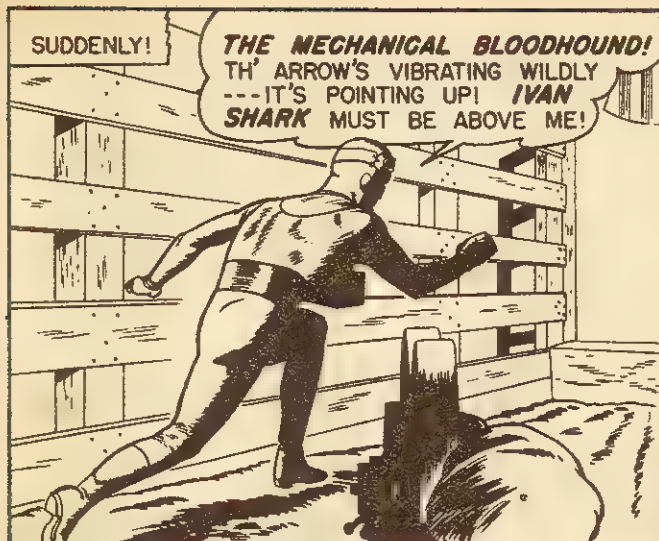
WE'RE GETTING NEAR THE
TOWN'S STOCKYARDS, **CAPTAIN**
MIDNIGHT! MAYBE THAT'S
WHERE **IVAN SHARK** AND
HIS GANG ARE HIDING!

WE'LL GIVE
IT A TRY,
ICKY! YOU
GUARD THE
CAR WHILE
I INVESTIGATE!

TH' MEAT AX IS
RIGGED UP TO FALL
JUST LIKE A GUILLOTINE,
SHARK! IT'S SURE
DEATH!

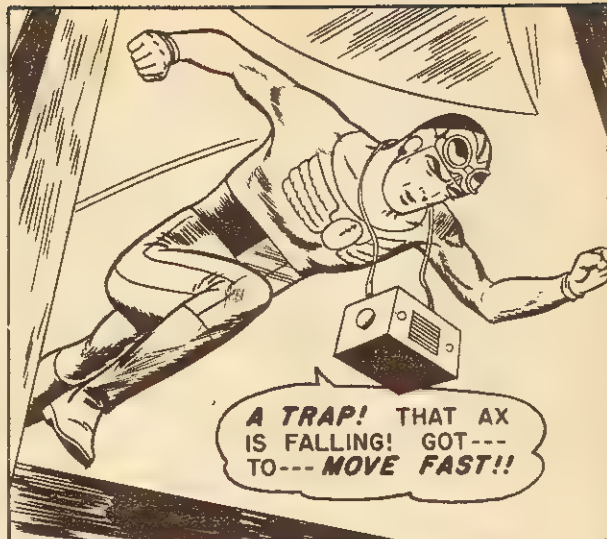
SPLENDID, **MECHANIC!**
CAPTAIN MIDNIGHT
CAN'T POSSIBLY
SUSPECT THIS TRAP!
SHHHHH!
HE'S COMING IN!

MEANWHILE, THE SHARK'S TRAP IS READY!



SUDDENLY!

THE MECHANICAL BLOODHOUND!
TH' ARROW'S VIBRATING WILDLY
---IT'S POINTING UP! **IVAN**
SHARK MUST BE ABOVE ME!



A TRAP! THAT AX
IS FALLING! GOT---
TO--- MOVE FAST!!



CLANNING!



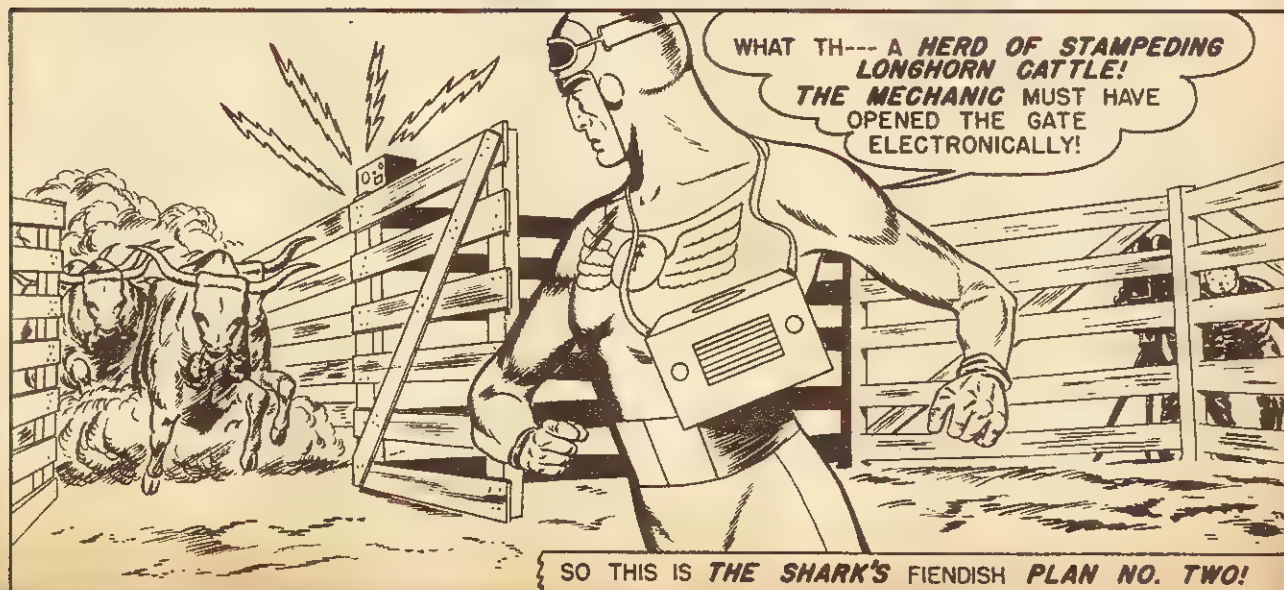
BLAST HIM! HE
ESCAPED! MECHANIC,
PUT PLAN NO. 2 INTO
EFFECT!!

RIGHTO,
CHIEF!



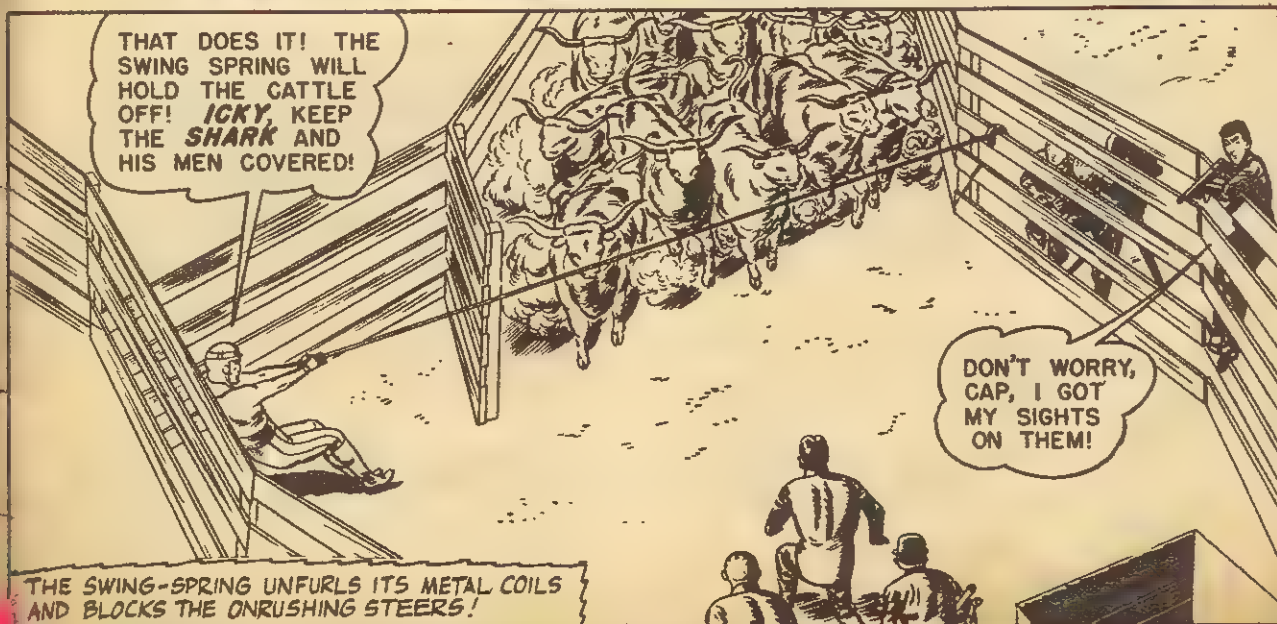
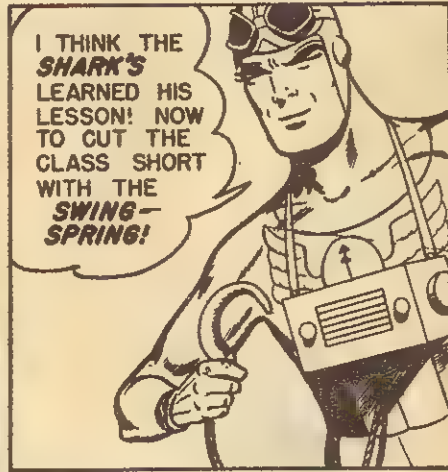
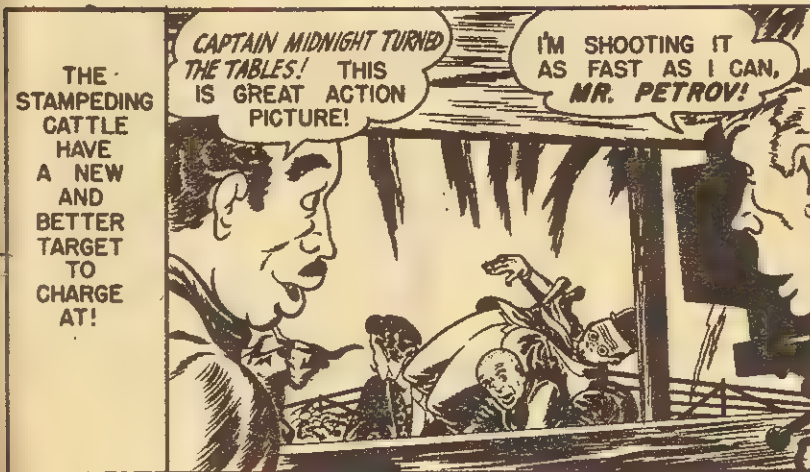
THERE YOU ARE
AT LAST, IVAN
SHARK! I'M
COMING UP TO
GET YOU!!

THAT'S WHAT YOU
THINK! HURRY,
MECHANIC---
OPEN THE
GATE!



WHAT TH--- A HERD OF STAMPEDING
LONGHORN CATTLE!
THE MECHANIC MUST HAVE
OPENED THE GATE
ELECTRONICALLY!

SO THIS IS THE SHARK'S FIENDISH PLAN NO. TWO!





YES, LET'S ALL HOPE THAT THE **SHARK** NEVER GETS FREE AGAIN TO CONCOCT NEW AND MORE DEADLY SCHEMES AGAINST THE WELFARE OF THE NATION!

FLIGHTS THAT FAILED

JEAN JACQUES PILATRE DE ROZIER AND P.A. ROMAIN KILLED IN EXPLOSION ON BALLOON FLIGHT FROM FRANCE TO ENGLAND. (JUNE 18, 1785)

ATTEMPTED TRANSATLANTIC CROSSING BY BALLOON BY CAPT. WASHINGTON H. DONALDSON ENDED IN A CRASH AT NEW CANAAN, CONN. (1873)

START OF POLAR EXPEDITION BY SALOMON AUGUSTE ANDREE, SWEDISH ENGINEER, WHICH ENDED IN DISASTER ON WHITE ISLAND, NEAR SPITZBERGEN. (JULY 11, 1897)

HARRY G. HAWKER AND K. MACKENZIE GRIEVE FAILED IN AN ATTEMPTED NON-STOP TRANSATLANTIC FLIGHT BETWEEN NEWFOUNDLAND AND IRELAND WHEN THEY WERE FORCED DOWN AT SEA AFTER FLYING 1080 MILES. RESCUE WAS MADE BY STEAMER "MARY." (1910)

PERCY SINCLAIR PILCHER, ENGLISH GLIDER EXPERT, KILLED IN FLIGHT IN ENGLAND. (1899)

CHARLES NUNGESSER AND FRANCOIS COLI DISAPPEARED OVER THE ATLANTIC ON FLIGHT FROM FRANCE TO U.S. (MAY 8, 1927)

MAJOR MIDNIGHT

SERGEANT TWILIGHT
HITS A NEW
LOW (NOTE)!

HERE AGAIN IS THAT OUTRAGEOUS
AND TIRING---PARDON US!---
WE MEAN THE COURAGEOUS AND
INSPIRING SERGEANT TWILIGHT,
AS HE ONCE MORE TANGLES WITH
CRIME---AND WE MEAN TANGLES!
MUSIC WILL SOOTHE THE SAVAGE
BEAST, THEY SAY, BUT THE KIND
OF MUSIC THAT OUR HERO WHEELLES
OUT OF A TUBA---WELL, IT DOESN'T
SOOTHE AT ALL! THE COURAGEOUS
SARGE TOOTS AND SHOOTS HIS WAY
THROUGH TO VICTORY, IN A
SYMPHONY OF CRIME-CRUSHING!

OOM-PAH---BLATT!!



Art by LEONARD FRANK

AT HIS PLACE IN THE CITY, MAJOR ALBRIGHT IS WORKING ON IMPORTANT PAPERS FOR THE GOVERNMENT.

GOT TO GET THESE REPORTS DONE BY TONIGHT!

OOM-PAH-PAH!
OOM-PAH-PAH!
PAH!

OMIGOSH! WHAT'S THAT NOISE? HOW CAN I WORK WITH A RACKET LIKE THAT GOING ON?

WHAT'S IKKY GOT THERE ANYWAY?

GOOD GOSH...A TUBA!

AIN'T IT A BEAUT, MAJOR? GOT IT AT THE PAWN SHOP, AND CHEAP, TOO!

WELL...HERE'S A COMMAND PERFORMANCE! I COMMAND YOU TO PRACTICE SOMEWHERE ELSE!

BUT MAJOR! DON'T YOU KNOW THAT TUBA PLAYERS ARE THE MOST RARE AND IMPORTANT MUSICIANS OF ALL---UH---GOLLY!

MAJOR THINKS THIS IS CRAZY, BUT I'VE ALWAYS HAD A YEN TO PLAY THE TUBA. WHERE CAN I PRACTICE IN PEACE? LET'S SEE...HOW ABOUT AN ALLEY?

OOM-PAH-PAH!
OOM-PAH-PAH!
OOM-PAH-PAH!

WHUNK!
THUD!

RARE MUSIC MANUSCRIPT STOLEN FROM MUSEUM!

OWWW! THIS WASN'T SUCH A GOOD IDEA AFTER ALL!

SOME PEOPLE JUST DON'T APPRECIATE THE FINER POINTS OF MUSIC, THE BARBARIANS! BUT I'LL TRY THIS PARK! NOBODY'S AROUND!



OOM-PAH...
BLATT!
OOM-PAH...
BLATT!

DING IT!
WHY DO I GET SO MANY SOUR NOTES? GOT TO KEEP ON PRACTICING, I GUESS!



BUT ANOTHER DISTURBANCE COMES TO THE WOULD-BE MUSICIAN!

OOM-PAH!
OOM-PAH!

HEY YOU! DID YA GET DAT HORN AT THE HOOPER HOCK SHOP?



YES! BUT DON'T DISTURB ME, FELLAS! I---HUH?

LISTEN, WE WANT TO BUY THAT HORN! HOW MUCH DO YA WANT?



WHY WOULD YOU WANT THIS PARTICULAR TUBA? GO AWAY, I WON'T SELL!

OH, YA WON'T SELL, EH?



THEN WE'LL JUST TAKE IT, CHUMP!

AND HERE'S WHAT YA GET INSTEAD OF MONEY!



THEY TOOK THE TUBA AWAY! MY PLAYING CAN'T BE THAT BAD! I'M MAD NOW!





NOW THEY'LL
ANSWER TO
SERGEANT
TWILIGHT!

A SWIFT ALTERATION, AND MILD IGABOO
MUDD BECOMES THAT HUMAN DYNAMO
KNOWN FAR AND WIDE AS ---SFRGEANT
TWILIGHT!



HALT, YOU
CROOKS!....
OR ELSE!



OR ELSE WHAT?
HA, HA! WHAT
A GOON!

OOF!
MY HEAD!
IT'S STUCK!



I'LL BLACKJACK THE
MONKEY AND WE'LL...

WAIT! HERE COMES
A COP! WE
GOTTA SCRAM!



WHAT'S THIS
ALL ABOUT?
WHY, YOU'RE
SGT. TWILIGHT!

YES!
THOSE TWO
CROOKS
TRIED TO
TAKE MY
TUBA!



THEY LOOKED LIKE
AL GOUGH AND MONK
SAUNDERS! THEY'RE
GONE NOW! BUT WHY
WOULD THEY WANT
YOUR TUBA?

I DON'T
UNDERSTAND IT
EITHER,
OFFICER!



OH WELL, SKIP IT, OFFICER!
THEY DIDN'T GET AWAY
WITH THE TUBA, SO
WHY WORRY?

I'VE GOT A GREAT IDEA NOW! I KNOW THE ONE PLACE TO PRACTICE WHERE NOBODY WILL DISTURB ME!



I'LL GO UP IN THE BRIGHT BLUE YONDER IN MAJOR MIDNIGHT'S BEECHCRAFT, THAT'S WHAT I'LL DO!



HEY, LOOK! HE'S GOING UP IN A PLANE!

C'MON, LET'S GET IN BEFORE HE GETS THE MOTOR WARMED UP!



THE SARGE IS UNAWARE THAT HE HAS BEEN TRAILED BY THE TWO MYSTERIOUS GROOKS!

THE BEECHCRAFT ROARS HIGH INTO THE AIR, AND FINALLY...

NOW TO SET THE AUTOMATIC PILOT AND GET TO WORK!



GOLDEN NOTES POUR OUT INTO THE UNTROUBLED UPPER AIR!

ALONE AT LAST! NOBODY TO HEAR ME AND COMPLAIN! THIS IS GREAT!



OOM-PAH...
BLAT??

DOGGONE! THERE'S THAT SOUR NOTE AGAIN! GOT TO CORRECT IT!



LET'S HAVE THAT BLOWER, BUDD!

HOLY SMOKE! THE TWO CROOKS AGAIN! YOU STOWED AWAY ON THE PLANE!



THE WILY CROOKS LEAP AT TWILIGHT FROM THE REAR COMPARTMENT AND SEIZE THE TUBA!

BRIGHT BOY,
AREN'T YA?
BUT YA WEREN'T
BRIGHT ENOUGH
TO FIGURE OUT
WHY WE WANTED
THIS TUBA---SEE?

HUH? A
ROLLED-UP
MUSIC MANU-
SCRIPT FELL OUT!
NO WONDER
IT BLEW
SOUR NOTES!



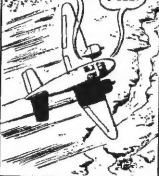
I REMEMBER SEEING
A HEADLINE ABOUT A
RARE OLD MUSIC
MANUSCRIPT STOLEN
FROM THE MUSEUM!
SO YOU CROOKS DID IT?

SURE! BUT THE COPS WERE
AFTER US! WE DASHED
INTO THE HOCK-SHOP, AND
DUMPED IT INTO THE
TUBA! THE COPS DIDN'T
HAVE US WITH THE GOODS,
SO WE GOT AWAY WITHOUT
A PINCH!



WE FIGURED TO RETURN
LATER AND GET THE
MANUSCRIPT! IT'S WORTH
FIVE GRAND! BUT THEN
WHEN WE SAW YOU
HAD BOUGHT THE TUBA, WE
HAD TO FOLLOW AND GET
IT BACK!

I SEE!



NOW FLY US
BACK TO DA
AIRPORT, CHUM!
THIS GUN SAYS
SO!

Y-YES
S-SIR!



SOON, BACK AT THE AIRPORT...

THANKS FOR
DA RIDE! YOU
CAN HAVE DAT
TUBA NOW!
SO LONG!



NOT SO FAST, MY FRIENDS!
THIS IS THE TIME FOR
SERGEANT TWILIGHT TO
TURN THE TABLES!



UGH!

THE VALIANT SERGEANT HEAVES
THE INSTRUMENT IN AN EFFORT TO STOP THE CROOKS!

MEANWHILE, MAJOR ALBRIGHT
HAS COME TO THE AIRPORT FOR HIS PLANE AND--

POOR ICKY! I WAS
HARSH TO HIM BEFORE!
HEY! LOOKS
LIKE A FIGHT
IN THAT HANGAR,
AND THAT'S
THE SIGNAL FOR
MAJOR MIDNIGHT!



THE SULTAN OF THE SKYWAYS JOINS THE FRAY!



STRETCH OUT AND TAKE IT EASY, BOYS!

WYHAM!



UGH! NOW THAT THE TUBA IS OFF YOUR HEAD, WILL YOU EXPLAIN ALL THIS, SARGE?

UB... GLUB! GIVE ME A CHANCE TO GET MY BREATH, WILL YOU?

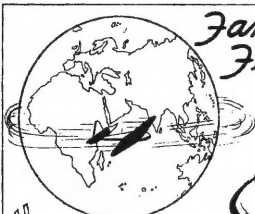


WELL, YOU SEE, MAJOR, THESE TWO GROOKS STOLE THIS RARE OLD MUSIC MANUSCRIPT FROM THE MUSEUM AND...

AND YOU RECOVERED IT! GOOD FOR YOU! WHY DIDN'T YOU TELL ME YOU WERE WORKING ON THIS CASE ALL THE TIME? I THOUGHT YOU WERE JUST PRACTICING THE TUBA FOR FUN!



WOW! THE MAJOR THINKS I KNEW WHAT I WAS DOING ALL THE TIME! OH WELL, WHY DISILLUSION HIM? SERGEANT TWILIGHT WON AGAIN!



Famous Fliers
#2

WILEY POST (U.S.) FLEW AROUND THE WORLD SOLD ON JULY 15, 1933



HAKOLD GATTY (AUSTRALIA) MADE A WORLD FLIGHT WITH WILEY POST (U.S.) (JUNE 23, 1931)

WHIPPER-SNAPPERS

KING WILLIAM STRUCK
MY ANCESTOR ON THE
SHOULDER WITH HIS
SWORD AND MADE
HIM A KNIGHT.

WELL--
GIVING BILL
HIT MY GRAND-
FATHER ON THE
HEAD WITH A TOMA-
HAWK AND MADE
HIM AN ANGEL!

ANCESTRY

COME INSIDE, JACK.
I'LL SHOW YOU
MY FAMILY TREE.



SORRY BUT I'VE
PROMISED TO LOOK
AT JONES' CABBAGES.

I HEAR THEY BELONG
TO THE **EARLY SETTLERS**.

WELL, YOU
WOULDN'T
THINK SO IF
YOU'D SEE THE
BILL COLLECTORS
ALWAYS AT THEIR
DOOR!

MY ANCESTORS CAME
OVER ON THE
MAYFLOWER.

IT'S **LUCKY**
THEY DID ---
THE IMMIGRATION
LAWS ARE STRICT
NOW!



THAT FELLOW CLAIMS
TO BE A RELATIVE
OF YOURS, SAYHE.

RIDICULOUS!!

HE SAYS
HE CAN
PROVE IT--

HE'S A
FOOL!

--WELL, IF THAT DOESN'T PROVE
HE'S A RELATIVE OF YOURS,
IT MAY JUST BE A
COINCIDENCE!

